



Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens e-Newsletter February 2018

HAPPENING THIS MONTH!

**Arboretum
Gates Open**
8:00 AM-5:00 PM

Interpretive Plant Clinic

Saturday, February 3
9:30 AM- 10:30 AM

Volunteer Work Day

Saturday, February 10
9:00AM-12:00 PM

Nature Walk

Saturday, February 10
9:30 AM- 10 :30 AM

Kids Tour

Saturday, February 10
10:00 AM- 11:00 AM

Discovering Nature



Fire is returning to the Pine Flatwoods at the Arboretum

Sandhills and pine flatwoods will not continue to exist in their natural states without frequent fire. Instead, what you will find after several decades without fire, are open spaces invaded by a few fast-growing plants that shade out the numerous fire-tolerant species. Slowly the canopy will close and the diversity of plants and animals will decrease . Managers of natural areas use prescribed fire to reverse these trends and preserve the conditions of the original communities.

Under natural conditions, fires occur most

Nearby
Saturday, February 17
9:30 AM- 10:30 AM

SUPPORTERS & PARTNERS

BRONZE PARTNER

Greg and Pat Cloud
Allen Skinner

SILVER PARTNER

Anthony John Rigney,
PA & Rigney Family
of Jacksonville, FL
Pat & Cliff Jeremiah
Russell Blueberry Farm

GOLD PARTNER

Robb & Pam Mitchell

Gate Keeper

Marcia Mederos

Steward

bestbet Jacksonville
Jamie C. Shelton

**For Donor Programs
Information, click**

[Donor](#)

Thank you!

frequently in the early part of the growing season. It is hard to reintroduce fire to natural areas where it has been suppressed for many years because the accumulation of fuel (dead wood and fire prone vegetation) often create dangerous conditions for a growing season burn. In response, fire managers burn in the cooler winter months when fire is easier to control. These winter burns do not necessarily trigger the same responses from the plants in the community that the natural growing season burns would. Therefore, land managers will often use winter burns to create safer conditions over several burn cycles and then switch to growing season burns to generate the plant and animal diversity seen under natural conditions.

The above paragraphs were reprinted from Fire in Florida's Ecosystems courtesy of the Florida Forest Service

With the support of the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, JAG will begin to re-introduce fire to the pine communities at the Arboretum. The work will be supervised by Florida Forest Service. In mid-January, 3 acres of flatwood near the western boundary were mowed to reduce the fuel load so that the first burn does not produce excessive smoke. In February or March, when weather conditions are right, Florida Forest Service will burn the small parcel. The area will be burned again in two to three years. After several winter burns, they will be able to switch to growing season burns to help restore the groundcover diversity of the habitat.

Happy Prescribed Fire Awareness Week Jan 28-Feb 3!

Shop at Amazon Smile

The Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens is registered with Amazon Smile, a foundation that donates a portion of all sales to a shopper's favorite charity. Using your normal account and settings you will find the same low prices and availability. Enjoy shopping and supporting us by visiting smile.amazon.com

JAG Membership

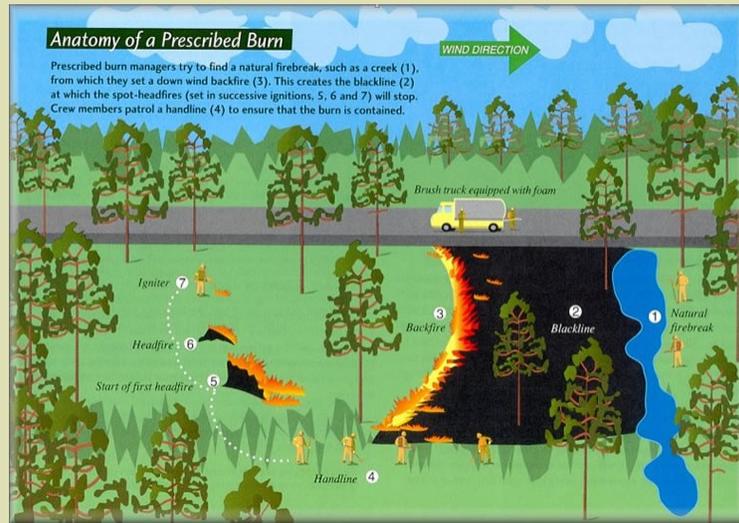
By becoming a member or donor, you are supporting the Arboretum's operations and improvements. All donations are tax-deductible. Details are available on our website.

Membership Levels

\$ 40 Single
\$ 55 Dual
\$ 70 Family
\$100 Friend

Supporters & Corporate Partners

Bronze Partner \$250



Prescribed burn managers try to find a natural firebreak, such as a creek (1), from which they set down a wind backfire (3). This creates a blackline (2) at which the spot-headfires (set in successive ignitions (5, 6, 7) will stop. Crew members patrol a handline (4) to ensure that the burn is contained.

Reprinted from Fire in Florida's Ecosystems courtesy of the Florida Forest Service.

Discovering Nature Nearby

Silver Partner \$500
Gold Partner \$1,000

John Bartram Society

Gatekeeper \$2500+
Steward \$5000+
President's Council
\$10000+

To join or purchase a
gift membership, click

[JOIN](#)

Thank you!

Join us at the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens for a FREE program



DISCOVERING
**NATURE
NEARBY**
JACKSONVILLEARBORETUM.COM



JACKSONVILLE
**ARBORETUM
& GARDENS**

SPRING 2018

3rd Saturdays January to May 2018 at 9:30 a.m. in the Picnic Area
The picnic area is wheelchair accessible

Jan 20

Danielle D'Amato, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will talk about an important resident of the arboretum, the gopher tortoise explaining their habitat needs and what we can do to help protect this important species.

Mar 17

Annalissa Winter, Fresh from Florida, and Dave Holley, Duval County Forrester, will talk about trees. They will demonstrate how to make handmade paper and leaf rubbings.

Apr 21

Dr. Tony Rossi, UNF Entomology Professor will present an Insect Discovery Walk and Talk. Identification of species and insect collections will be available for viewing.

Feb 17

Alice Shinkos, UF Master Naturalist and Artist will present: "Nature Journals for Beginning Naturalists of All Ages". Join in the creative fun while documenting nature by drawing, painting and writing.

May 19

Second Annual Butterfly Release with collections, posters and demonstrations of our most common Florida butterflies. Native species will be available for participants to release.

TD Bank
America's Most Convenient Bank®
info@jacksonvillearboretum.org

More Nature Opportunities
1st Saturdays Nov 2017 & Jan - Mar 2018 9:30am
Chuck Hubbard's IAG Plant Interpretive Series
Every 2nd Saturday Nature Tours starting at 9:30 am

RAYONIER
Advanced Materials
1445 Millicoe Road, Jacksonville, FL 32225

O Gopher Tortoises - Can you Dig it?" January 20 2018

There were 20 people for the fabulous program by Danielle D'Amato. She has been working with tortoises at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and also at The Ark Wildlife Care and Sanctuary in Hilliard, Florida, a non profit organization. She brought two tortoises, one who was rescued from a flood and the other from a dog (it still has the scar). Danielle spoke to the level of the middle-schoolers who had lots of questions and enjoyed holding the tortoises. She covered anatomy, eating and mating habits, burrows and the importance of being a keystone species - one which is now in threatened status. Then she took us on a walk to see several of the burrows. I think Danielle was quite pleased that our tortoises are happy in their home here at the Jacksonville Arboretum and Gardens.

We were very fortunate to have such an informed, experienced and caring presenter.

Trail News



During the last workday, the Arboretum Conservation Corps installed a restoration planting in an area left bare by the removal of a large invasive camphor tree and hundreds of its seedlings. JAG wishes to thank the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens for their generous support of this and other recent conservation projects at the Arboretum. If you would like to join the Conservation Corps, please contact info@jacksonvillearboretum.org

Air Potato Roundup

12th Annual First Coast Air Potato (and other invasive plant) Round-up



Come Join the Fun and Help Preserve Our Conservation Lands!

Volunteers are needed to help rid our natural areas of Air Potato vine and other invasive plants. Invasive species smother our native plants and are one of the **greatest ecological threats to natural communities in Florida.**

Gather all your friends and family & participate in this fun event! No registration necessary unless you're bringing a large group. Just grab your garden gloves and head over to one of the many work sites! **All participants will be entered into a random drawing for great prizes!**

Event Work Sites:

Deep Creek Conservation Area - Edgefield Tract

473 County Road 207A
East Palatka, FL 32131
Site Captain: Tyler Green
Tgreen@sjrwmfd.com

Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens

1445 Millcoo Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32225
Site Captain: Merrill Varn
info@jacksonvillearboretum.org

Walter Jones Historical Park

11964 Mandarin Road
Jacksonville, FL 32223
Site Captain: Gabriele Dempsey
gkdjax@gmail.com

Dutton Island Preserve

793 Dutton Island Road West
Jacksonville, FL 32233
Site Captain: Felicia Boyd
fboyd@timucuanparks.org

Jacksonville Zoo & Gardens

370 Zoo Parkway
Jacksonville, FL 32218
Volunteers meet @ the zoo Picnic Grove at the back of the main parking lot.
Site Captain: Chris Dailey
daileyc@jacksonvillezoo.org

St. Johns River State College

Orange Park Campus
283 College Drive
Orange Park, FL 32065
Park & meet in the Health Bldg parking lot
Site Captain: Karen Meyer
KarenMeyer@sjrstate.edu

Tree Hill Nature Center

7152 Lone Star Road
Jacksonville, FL 32211
Site Captain: Mark Mummaw
mark@treehill.org

Camp Chownaw County Park

1517 Ball Road
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
Site Captain: Ann Stodola
Ann.Stodola@claycountygov.com

Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park

500 Wonderwood Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32233
Stop at park office and identify as a round-up participant.
Site Captain: Daniel Lambert
DLambert@coj.net

Saturday March 3, 2018
9 a.m. - 12 p.m.



For more information contact Jessica Spencer at 904-232-1696 or Jessica.E.Spencer@usace.army.mil
For information on a specific site, please contact the listed site captain.
To learn more about invasive plants, visit: www.floridainvasives.org, www.fleppc.org or www.plants.ifas.ufl.edu

Tribute Bricks

Dear Friends and Supporters,

We are asking for your support of our Tribute Brick and Tribute Bench fundraising projects at the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens. This time of the year is great for making tax deductible gifts and, as a reminder, we are a non-profit organization and not a city park. We have no paid staff and rely solely on volunteers - and your charitable contributions - to operate the Arboretum for everyone to enjoy.

Consider supporting us by purchasing an engraved brick paver or an engraved bench with the name of your choice, permanently imprinted on the brick and on a plaque on the bench, to honor or memorialize those who are dear to you. This is a visible honor that you can use, and that other visitors will appreciate as they enter the arboretum to walk the trails and enjoy the grounds. The Tribute Brick area will create a living monument of pathways bridging the past, the present and the future. Your placement of a bench will also be appreciated, creating places of rest for you and other guests. Your donation helps us today - and will be enjoyed now and for generations to come.

Your Tribute Brick will be located at the kiosk at the entrance to the Gardens, with benches placed in strategic locations throughout the arboretum grounds.

This year marks our 10th anniversary - and a great opportunity to celebrate the success of what's being called "the hidden jewel of Jacksonville" for its lakeside gardens focused on people's use of plants and extensive walking and hiking trails.

Thanks for considering the Jacksonville Arboretum & Gardens Tribute Bricks/Benches fundraising program in your annual giving.

Sincerely,
Martha Mazza
Tribute Brick Coordinator

Kids Tour of the Arboretum



This tour is designed to teach kids the relationship between people and the environment. The group will be taken around the arboretum and shown what plants can be used for purposes such as food, medicine, fibers, culture, and environmental factors. Kids will learn that plants are essential to life as we know it.

This free tour is designed for kids roughly ages 7-12 and will be held every second Saturday of

the month. It will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the picnic area and will continue until 11:00 a.m. This program will not only get the kids outside and letting out some energy, but it will also teach them facts and skills they can take to their families and schools.

Please email arboretum4kids@gmail.com as spots are limited

McKenna Korzeniewski is a senior at UNF, double majoring in Global Environmental Studies and Religious Studies. She has been working in horticulture since 2010. She currently interns at the Jacksonville Arboretum and is the Peace Corps Ambassador for UNF. McKenna recently studied abroad at Chiang Mai University in Thailand and hopes to go into agriculture education in the future.

Show the World You Love the Arboretum

Show the world you love us, by posting your Arboretum photographs at [#jacksonvillearboretum](https://www.instagram.com/jacksonvillearboretum) & www.facebook.com/JacksonvilleArboretumGardens
We appreciate it!

OUR MISSION

*Cultivating a unique environment
for recreation, education, and inspiration.*

